

President's Report

Greetings,

It has been quite a few weeks and I have to say how thankful I am for the members who contributed to the organisation and success of the auction that we held on Saturday 18 November.

In all there were about twenty members and others who volunteered to make it happen and all things considered it went pretty smoothly. We especially thank Steve Scroope, Sam Hunter, Ian McLean, Wayde Chalmers, Peter Shannon, Jane Southwell and Judith Davidson who were in the thick of the action and sold all but 14 lots of the 341 on offer in under four hours. My thanks also go to Lesley Scroope who assisted in processing the sales and payments. Then we had volunteers taking the bidders registrations, manning the parking arrangements, keeping an eye on the crowd and helping successful bidders collect their items.

We are presently negotiating the sale of the remaining lots to finally clear the space so that the remaining carpet can be removed in readiness for building work to proceed as soon as it can be arranged.

Please do not forget the Annual General Meeting on Monday. It is imperative that all committee positions are filled. The extraordinary events of the past year have clearly demonstrated the necessity of having committee members available when decisions have to be made. As we move into a new phase in the evolution of the society it is important that things go as smoothly as possible.

Our *End of Year Gathering* is fast approaching—next week on Wednesday 6 December. Since our last newsletter we have learned that the Irish Ambassador's wife Ms Patricia McCarthy will be joining us as well as two members of the Minister's staff and Aiden Cronin, Director of the Irish Abroad Unit. It is pleasing to see so many members booking a place at the long tables. Members from as far away as Western Australia and Hornsby have booked. Today will be the last day to make a booking.

We are still awaiting the finalisation of our promised grant from the NSW Government and once that is received it will be full steam ahead as we only have seven months till we must move and we all know the difficulties of getting tradesmen during January.

My sincere thanks to all those who have contributed to the society whether it has been donations of funds, books, assistance with the preparation for the auction or the hundred other things that crop up on a regular basis. All your efforts large and small all help and are very much appreciated.

Please note our **next meeting— the AGM on Monday 4 December at 2pm at the Uniting Church Hall**, will be the last of the year. The next meeting will be Monday 5 February 2024 after you have all had a well earned rest over the holiday period.

Cheryl Mongan
President

AGM Monday 4 Dec

It's that time again. As agreed at our last AGM we would develop role descriptions for each of the elected committee members and considerable time has been put into doing this in consultation with others. This descriptions have been circulated to all members so they are aware of what is involved for committee members.

All financial members will be eligible to vote or stand for election. Not only are we having Irish guests at our luncheon next week but as it turns out we will have an Irish themed presentation at our meeting. Our guest speaker will be Judith Davidson who has recently returned from holidaying in Ireland and she will share her experiences in her talk *The Irish Enigma: Emigration, Partition, Famine and Family*.

There will be a cuppa and plenty of parking in the church grounds. **United Church Hall, 2pm Mon 4 December.**

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- ◆ **Monday 4 December**
Annual General Meeting
Uniting Church Hall 2pm
Speaker Judith Davidson
The Irish Enigma: Emigration, Partition, Famine and Family
- ◆ **Wednesday 6 December**
End of Year Gathering
'Celebrating our Irish'
Luncheon, Lovat Chapel
12.30pm -
Bookings close 30 Nov

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THE WOODEN WASHING MACHINE MAKING ITS WAY TO A NEW HOME. [SHEREE BAMFORTH]



BIDDING WAS CONDUCTED AT A BRISK PACE TO GET THROUGH THE LOTS. [SHEREE BAMFORTH]



TANYA CULLEN AND LILIAN COULTON REGISTERING THE BIDDERS. [SHEREE BAMFORTH]

MEMBERS WERE GLAD WHEN THE AUCTION WAS OVER - IT HAD BEEN A LONG DAY. BACK ROW (L TO R) CORINNE CHALMERS, DIANA MACQUILLAN, MAUREEN COLLINS, SHIRLEY PETTY AND SHEREE BAMFORTH FRONT ROW (L TO R) ROSALIE BUSH, WILMA TANSWELL, LILIAN COULTON, JUDITH DAVIDSON AND YOURS TRULY. [SHEREE BAMFORTH]

Who were the Irish in Yass?

In October 2022 edition of *Boongaroon* we celebrated our Irish ancestors and noted that over half the early settlers in the district were of Irish Descent.

But who were they, and where were they from? They were a mix of holders of tickets of leave, pardoned convicts, and free settlers. They were an eclectic mix.

YDHS society member, William Delaney, is a Master of Arts student, in the History of Family program, at the University of Limerick in Ireland. He is looking more deeply into the question, "Who were the Irish in Yass?", for his research dissertation.

William currently lives in Western Australia, but his family were early settlers in Manton's Creek and were well known in the Yass area until the 1930s.

William is interested to hear from people with Irish ancestry in the Yass district to take part in his research. You can contact William at 23242396@studentmail.ul.ie.

Christmas Markets

We are still accepting pre-loved history and family history books for sale at the Christmas market on Thursday 14 December.

Could we exceed last years' sales figure of \$710? We hope so but we would appreciate a hand to help us set up our stall or to man/woman it for an hour or so. If you can help

Christmas Parade

The YDHS is planning to enter a float in the Yass Christmas Street Parade on December 14th and we would love to have as many interested members involved as possible. The YDHS is keen to support this traditional community event.

The theme for the Society entry this year is "The Sixties are History Too" We have been able to borrow a 1960s Chevrolet pick-up truck to complement the theme.

Volunteers have been asked to come dressed up as a personality or concept from the 1960s. So far we have the Beatles, Normie Rowe, Little Patty, Elvis and Pricilla, a moon landing astronaut, the hippy look, surfie, Vietnam soldier, Jackie O look, decimal currency but there is scope for lots more.

If you would like to join in let us know your concept or contact me for a good suggestion - what about a Woollenwealth Queen??

My mobile is 0450338379.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Judith Davidson

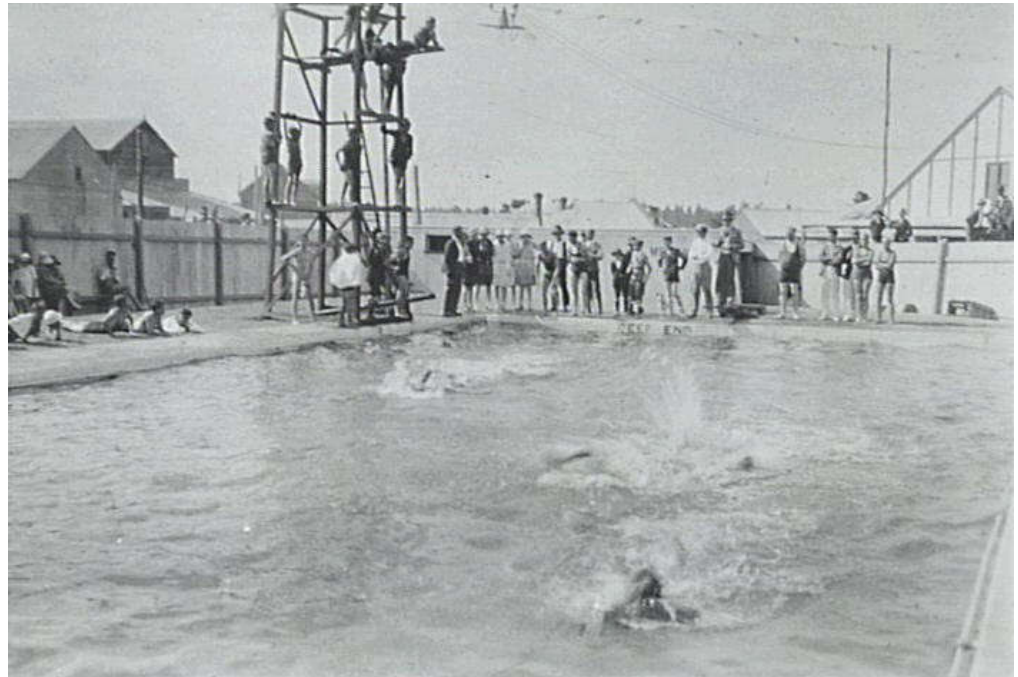
please contact Cheryl by phone 0413 312 081 or email at info@yasshistory.org.au.

We will be happy to have donated books brought to our meeting on Monday 4 December or if you have larger quantities of books we can arrange to collect them.



Mail: P O Box 304, Yass NSW 2582
 Museum: 247A Comur Street, Yass
 GPS -34.846457, 148.914576
 Archives: former ambulance station
 88 Meehan Street, Yass
 GPS -34.84183, 148.91211
 Phone: 0413 312 081 (President)
 0450 338 379 (Vice Pres)
 6226 2132 (Vice Pres)
 (Secretary)
 E-mail: info@yasshistory.org.au

Have you seen this view of Yass?



THE OLD ADELE STREET BATHS OPENED IN 1927 AND WERE A POPULAR SPOT TO COOL OFF IN SUMMER. THE BATHS WERE LOCATED IN THE CARPARK AREA BETWEEN THE OLD HUME TENNIS CLUB AND THE GARAGE ON THE CORNER OF ADELE AND COMUR STREETS. [YDHS ARCHIVES]

Find us on the web

www.yasshistory.org.au

Benefits of Membership

Benefits of membership include informative speakers at our meetings, digital copies of our journal *Boongaroon* and newsletters, talks, trips, access to archival information and museum entrance plus reduced rates for selected activities such as seminars, our conferences, trips and events.

We are still need books!

Further donations of pre-loved family and local history are always welcome. The sale of these books generate much needed income for the society During the last month we had donations from Diana MacQuillan. Bring your books to meetings or call Cheryl Mongan 0413 312 081 to arrange for collection.

PATRON

Marion McCarthy

ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS

President: Cheryl Mongan
 Vice President: Judith Davidson
 Nola Bindon
 Secretary: Vacant
 Treasurer: Tanya Cullen
 Publicity Officer: Vacant
 ✎
 Museum Coordinator: Vacant
 Archives Coordinator: Maureen Collins
 Public Officer: Rosalie Bush
 ✎

Yass & District Historical Society Inc is affiliated with the *Museums Australia* & *Royal Australian Historical Society*

New member

We are very pleased to extend a warm welcome to our new member Rebecca Pinchin, who joined us this month. We hope that Rebecca will enjoy her association with the Society.

Boongaroon

Compiling an interesting edition of our journal is almost always a challenge. While our focus is on local history we must not lose sight of the fact that it does tie into the bigger picture of national and even global history. Immigration, punishment, wars, pandemics, natural disasters, politics, depressions, adverse weather conditions and a host of other factors occurring elsewhere can have significant impacts on our local history. If you have a story to tell we would like to hear from you.

We welcome stories, articles, book reviews and other items of interest (up to 2,500 words) for publication. Longer articles will be considered but may be published in two parts. *Boongaroon* is posted or a digital copy emailed to all members according to their preference. Articles for the next issue are required by the end of February but if you have a work in progress please contact Cheryl Mongan 0413 312 081 email boongaroon@yasshistory.org.au

Diary Dates

December 2023

Mon 4	Annual General Meeting 2pm
Tues 5	Archives 2-5pm
Wed 6	Luncheon 12.30pm
Tues 12	Archives 2-5pm
Tues 19	Archives 2-5pm
Tues 26	Archives Closed



WELL KNOWN YASS IDENTITY STEVE SCROOPE GETTING THE BIDDING UNDERWAY AT OUR AUCTION. [SHEREE BAMFORTH]